

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE

NO. 367

In Senate, March 20, 1917.

Presented by Mr. Holt of Cumberland under suspension of the rules and on motion by same Senator referred to Committee on Military Affairs and one thousand copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

W. E. LAWRY, Secretary.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND SEVENTEEN

RESOLVE proposing an amendment to Article 7 of the Constitution relating to military.

Resolved: Two-thirds of the legislature concurring, that
2 article seven of the Constitution be amended by strik-
3 ing out all of Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of said article and
4 substituting therefor the following sections:

Section 1. All commissioned officers of the militia shall
2 be appointed and commissioned by the governor, from such
3 persons as are qualified by law to hold such offices.

Sect. 2. The legislature shall, by law, designate the qualifications necessary for holding a commission in the militia and shall prescribe the mode of selection of officers for the several grades.

Sect. 3. The adjutant general shall be appointed by the governor. But the adjutant general shall also perform the duties of quartermaster general and paymaster general until otherwise directed by law.

Sect. 4. The organization, armament and discipline of the militia and of the military and naval units thereof shall be the same as that which is now or may hereafter be prescribed by the laws and regulations of the United States; and it shall be the duty of the governor to issue from time to time such orders and regulations and to adopt such other means of administration, as shall maintain the prescribed standard of organization, armament and discipline; and such orders, regulations and means adopted shall have the full force and effect of law.

Sect. 5. Persons of the denominations of quakers and shakers, justices of the Supreme Judicial Court, ministers of the gospel and persons exempted by the laws of the United States may be exempted from military duty, but no other able-bodied person of the age of eighteen and under the age of forty-five years, excepting officers of the militia who have been honorably discharged, shall be so exempted unless he shall pay an equivalent to be fixed by law.

Resolved, That the aldermen of cities, the selectmen
2 of towns, and the assessors of the several plantations in
3 this state are hereby empowered and directed to notify the
4 inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations
5 to meet in the manner prescribed by law for calling and
6 holding biennial meetings of said inhabitants for the elec-
7 tion of senators and representatives, on the second Mon-
8 day in September following the passage of this resolve, to
9 give in their votes upon the amendment proposed in the
10 foregoing resolution, and the question shall be: "Shall ar-
11 ticle seven of the Constitution relating to military be amend-
12 ed as proposed by a resolve of the legislature?"

And the inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations
2 shall vote by ballot on said question, those in favor of the
3 amendment expressing it by the word "Yes" upon their
4 ballots and those opposed to the amendment by the word
5 "No" upon their ballots, and the ballots shall be received,
6 sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plan-
7 tation meetings, and returns made to the office of the secre-
8 tary of state in the same manner as votes for governor and
9 members of the legislature, and the governor and council
10 shall count the same, and if it shall appear that a majority
11 of the inhabitants voting on the question are in favor of the
12 amendment, it shall thereupon become a part of the Consti-
13 tution, and the governor shall forthwith make known the
14 fact by his proclamation.

Resolved, That the secretary of state shall prepare and
2 furnish to the several cities, towns and plantations ballots
3 and blank returns in conformity with the foregoing resolve
4 accompanied by a copy thereof.